Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIA-04 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-11 UPW-01
AID-20 RSR-01 /110 W
029821

R 011000Z OCT 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0625
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

UNCLAS 1 OF 2 SAIGON 15763

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: AN QUANG COMMUNIQUES SEPTEMBER 30

1. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY TRANSLATIONS OF COMMUNIQUES ISSUED SEPTEMBER 30 BY AN QUANG BUDDHISTS AND BUDHIST-BACKED PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRACY AND PEACE.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF NG QUANG COMMUNIQUE: THE UNIFIED BUDDHIST CHURCH OF VIETNAM DENOUNCES NGUYEN VAN THIEU'S ADMINISTRATION TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN PUBLIC OPINION: EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT MR. THIEU HAS COMMITTED MANY CRIMES AGAINST THE PEOPLE DURING HIS SEVEN-YEAR TENURE IN OFFICE (FROM 1965-1971). THE FOLLOWING ARE MR. THIEU'S ACTIONS TOWARDS BUDDHISM IN PARTICULAR:

3. 1966: RUTHLESS AND BLOODY SUPPRESSION OF BUDDHISTS IN SAIGON AND PROVINCES, NOTABLY IN CENTRAL VIETNAM, TO PUNISH BUDDHISTS WHO DEMANDED A CONSTITUENT CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY.

(2)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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1968: INTERNMENT OF VENERABLES THICH TRI QUANG, THICH HO GIAC, THICH LIEU MINH, THICH NHAT THUONG, AND BUDDHIST CADRES.

1969: JUDGEMENT AGAINST VENERABLE THICH THIEN MINH FOR 15 YEARS IMPRISONMENT: CONFISCATION OF QUANG DUC CENTER ON CONGLY STREET, SAIGON.

1970: PERMISSION FOR TROOPS TO OCCUPY THE VIETNAM UOC TU PAGODA, AND ONCE AGAIN TO KILL BUDDHIST MONKS AND FOLLOWERS DURING THE CURFEW HOURS OF MAY 5, 1970.

1971: ARRESTS AND TERRORIZING OF BUDDHIST CADRE TO AVENGE THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: ENCIRCLEMENT OF PAGODAS AND OTHER CHURCH INSTALLATIONS TO SUPPRESS THE MOVEMENT AGAINST THE UNDEMOCRATIC OCTOBER 3 ELECTION.

4. CONSIDERING THE ABOVE MISTAKES AND CRIMES, THE BUDDHIST CHURCH EARNESTLY CALLS ON ALL BUDDHISTS AS WELL AS OTHER GROUPS TO EXPRESS NON-CONFIDENCE IN MR. NGUYEN VAN THIEU: THE ONLY WAY TO MANIFEST OUR NON-CONFIDENCE IS NOT TO GO TO THE POLLS AND TO DENY THE OCTOBER 3 ELECTION, INCLUDING ITS RESULTS.

5. COMPATRIOTS AS WELL AS BUDDHIST FOLLOWERS IN THE PAST HAVE DARED TO DEMONSTRATE AT GUNPOINT, TO FAST UNTIL DEATH, O STAGE MARKET VENDORS STRIKES, AND TO BE JAILED AND PROSECUTED. ACCORDINGLY, THE ACT OF "REFUSING TO GO TO THE POLL" IS AVERY EASY COURSE OF ACTION. WHY SHOULD YOU FEAR DIFFICULTY? (SIGNED BY) RECTOR OF BUDDHIST INSTITUTE FOR SECULAR AFFAIRS, THICH THIEN HOA. END TEXT.

6. BEGIN TET OF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY PEOPLE'S TRUGGLE COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRACY AND PEACE: WE, THE UNDERSIGNED REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND POLITICAL PARZIE, SENATORES, DEPUTIES, AND NOTABLES

7. -- REALIZING THAT IT IS THE SUPREME INTERST OF THE NATIONTO RESTORE PECE AND BUILD DEMOCRACY ON THE BASIS OF THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNY,

8. -- NOTING THAT OUR PEOPLE HAVE NDURED TOO MUCH

SUFFERINGS OVER TWENTY-FIVE YEA' BECAUSE OF A WAR PLOTTED BY FOREIGNERS AND THEIR LACKEY ,

9. -- NOTING THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, WHICH DERIVED FROM RIGGED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN 1967, IS NOT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE AND DOES NOT REPRESENT IT, AND NOTING THAT, MOREOVER, IT IS LED BY NGUYEN VAN THIEU, A MILITARISTIC DICTATOR WHO DEPEND ON FOREIGNERS AND WHO IS DRIVING SOUTH VIETNAM DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO A STATE OF POLITICAL DISINTEGRATION, SOCIAL DEGENERATION, ECONOMIC DEADLOCK, ENDLESS WAR, AND ESPECIALLY COMPLETE LOSS OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY DUE TO INCREASINGLY FLAGRANT MANIPULATION BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

10. -- NOTING THAT THE PRESENT DISASTROUS SITUATION IF NOT SETTLED SOON, WILL ONLY DEPRIVE THIS INTERNECINE WAR OF ANY CHANCE TO BE ENDED AND WILL LEAD THE PEOPLE TO TOTAL DESTRUCTION,

11. -- CONSIDERING THAT NO INDIVIDUAL, OR GROUP, OROLITICAL BUNKER

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
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USDEL FRANCE
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AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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PARTY, OR RELIGIOUS DISCIPLINE, CAN STAND ALONE AGAINST THE AVOVE-SAID SITUATION, AND THAT UNITY OF MIND AND ACTION IS NEEDED FOR A DETERMINED EFFORT TO ACHIEVE DEMOCRACY AND PEACE FOR THE NATION.

12. FOR THE ABOVE REASONS WE DECIDE:

(1) -- TO FOUND A COMMITTEE NAMED PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE TO STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY AND PEACE.

(2) -- THE PSCDP IS READY TO EXPAND ITS MEMBERSHIP AND TO AFFILIATE WITH ALL INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WHO WILL JOIN IT, OR TO COORDINATE, OR ALLY WITH THEM, FOR THE ABOVE-STATED PURPOSE.

(3) -- THE STRUGGLE OF THE PSCDP WILL BE ALL-OUT, NATION-WIDE, AND WILL LAST UNTIL A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT ABLE TO ACHIEVE PEACE FOR THE PEOPLE IS FOUNDED.

13. VEN. THICH PHAP TRI, IVE-RECTOR OF THE VHD
VEN. THICH HUYEN QUANG, SECREATRY GENERAL OF THE VHD

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FATHER PHAN KHAC TU
FATHER HUYNH CONG MINH
VEN. THACH XE, SECREATRY GENERAL OF THE THERAVADA BUDDHIST SECT
VEN. THACH NGOC SAI, THERAVADA SECT
BRIG. GEN. LE VAN TAT (CAO DAI NOTABLE)
ATTORNEY TRAN VAN TUYEN
DEPUTY HO VAN MINH
SENATOR VU VAN MAY
MR. HUYNH NGO
DEPUTY PHAN XUAN HUY
PROFESSOR TRAN NGOC NINH
PROFESSOR CAO HOAI HA
NOTABLE VO HIEU NGHIA
PROFESSOR LY THUONG TRAN
DEPUTY DUONG VAN BA
DEPUTY NGUYEN TRONG NHO
LAWYER BUI CHANH THOI
DEPUTY NGUYEN KHAC TAN
DEPUTY NGUYEN HUU CHUNG
DEPUTY LY QUY CHUNG
PROFESSOR CHAU TAM LUAN
ENGINEER NGUYEN DUONG
LAWYER NGUYEN THE KY
LADY LAWYER NGUYEN PHUOC DAI
DEPUTY HO NGOC NHUAN
DEPUTY DUONG VAN THUY
MR. NGUYEN VAN THANG (STUDENT)
DEPUTY HUYNH DIEU
STUDENT NGUYEN XUAN LAP
MR. HUYNH HUU PHI
NGUYEN TAN DAT (FOUNDER OF BUU SON KY HUONG BUDDHIST CHURCH)
PROFESSOR LE VINH
MR. NGUYEN THANH VINH
NGUYEN CHANH HAM
LADY DEPUTY KIEU MONG THU
LAWYER TRAN NGOC LIENG
PROFESSOR NGUYEN THI THANH TUYEN
MR. NGUYEN VAN CUOC
PROFESSOR NGUYEN VAN NGOC
PROFESSOR LE DINH DUYEN
PROFESSOR NGUYEN PHUC KHANH
PROFESSOR NGUYEN CONG HOAN

14. COPY TO: CHURCH CHAPTERS AT VARIOUS ECHELONS "FOR WIDESPREADDISSEMINATION SINCE THE CHURCH ALSO HAS A DUTY IN THE ABOVE COMMITTEE."
SAIGON, SEPTEMBER 30, 1971
SECREATRY GENERAL OF THE BUDDHIST INSITUTE
FOR EXECUTION OF THE DHARMA
VEN. THICH HUYEN QUANG. END TEXT.
BUNKER